CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD LAHONTAN REGION

RESOLUTION R6T-2006-0045

TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE LAHONTAN REGION (BASIN PLAN)

WHEREAS, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Water Board), finds:

- 1. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region (Basin Plan) took effect March 31, 1995 and has been amended since that date, and
- 2. State and federal laws require period review and revision of Basin Plans, and
- 3. The Water Board is responsible for reviewing water quality standards and implementation plans as appropriate and for modifying and adopting standards contained in the Basin Plan under provisions set forth in Section 303(c) of the federal Clean Water Act and Section 13240, Division 7 of the California Water Code. The federal process is called "Triennial Review," and
- 4. The Water Board and its staff implemented the 2006 Triennial Review by:
 - a. Sending a letter to the Region's Basin Plan mailing list, with a list of potential planning issues for public comment
 - b. Making the issues list and a staff report available to the public on request and posting these materials on the Board's Internet web page
 - c. Noticing and conducting a public hearing at its October 11-12, 2006 regular meeting
 - d. Responding to all written public comments received during the designated period, and
- 5. As a result of the Triennial Review process, the Water Board formulated the priority issues list shown in Attachment A.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, in fulfillment of the requirements of Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act and Section 13240, Division 7 of the California Water Code, has done the following:
 - a. Concluded the 2006 Triennial Review of the Lahontan Basin Plan
 - b. Approved the priority list (Attachment A) for revision of the Lahontan Basin Plan
 - c. Concluded that all other planning issues identified by staff and the public during the 2006 Triennial Review process would require additional funding in order to be addressed before the next Triennial Review.
- 2. The Water Board's Triennial Review actions do not preclude other Basin Plan revisions that may become necessary before the next Triennial Review in 2009.

I, Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, on October 11, 2006.

HAROLD J. SINGER EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Attachment A. Lahontan Water Board's Priority Planning Issues for 2006-2009

Issue No.	Subject	Description	Estimated Resource Needs (PY) ⁱ
1	Lake Tahoe Shorezone Amendments	Revision of Basin Plan Chapter 5 provisions affecting the Lake Tahoe shorezone (including a prohibition against waste discharges from new pier construction in fish spawning habitat) to increase compatibility with the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's shorezone ordinance.	1.0
2	Natural Sources Exclusion/Controllable Factors Language	Revisions to Basin Plan Chapter 3 to strengthen and clarify existing language that interprets compliance with water quality objectives in relation to "controllable factors" and naturally high concentrations of pollutants.	0.7
3	Revised exemption criteria for Truckee River and Little Truckee River 100-year flood plain prohibitions	Revisions to prohibition exemption criteria in Basin Plan Chapters 4 and 5 to add exemption criteria for new categories of projects. The amendments would add limited exemption categories similar to those allowable in the Lake Tahoe Basin (access across flood plains to otherwise buildable lots; relocation of coverage within a flood plain where there is a net water quality benefit). The amendments should include a narrower definition of recreation in relation to recreation projects that would be eligible for exemptions. This revision will also evaluate the appropriateness of adding a prohibition of grading in high elevation watersheds during winter periods (October – April).	0.7
4	Revised turbidity objectives for Truckee River and Little Truckee River watersheds	Revisions to existing turbidity objectives in Basin Plan Chapter 3 that are now expressed as "means of monthly means." New objectives would be expressed as annual or other short- term means.	1.0
5	Mixing Zones	Basin Plan amendments to add policy language including general authority to grant mixing zones and specific conditions under which they may be granted.	0.7
6	Editorial Update of Entire Plan	Plan update to reflect laws, regulations, and policies adopted or revised since 1995 by the State and Regional Water Boards and other agencies, and to make minor editorial changes.	0.5
7	Revised water quality objectives for Mojave River	New or revised site-specific objectives for segment of river downstream of Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority discharge, and possibly other river segments and tributaries.	1.0

Issue No.	Subject	Description	Estimated Resource Needs (PY)
8	Revised water quality objectives for temperature.	Revision of narrative temperature objectives to be more protective of salmonids seasonally and by water body, where appropriate.	1.5+
9	Modify waste discharge prohibitions to include provisions for protection of additional prime groundwater recharge areas of arid basins	Existing prohibitions affecting groundwater include general regionwide prohibitions and watershed-specific prohibitions such as those affecting onsite wastewater disposal systems. Additional study could be needed to identify boundaries of aquifers to be protected.	1.5+
10	Plan clarifications and amendments to address Lake Tahoe Basin stormwater issues	Address problems associated with compliance with Lake Tahoe Basin stormwater effluent limitations, including compliance schedules and flows greater than the design storm.	0.7
		TOTAL ESTIMATED RESOURCE NEEDS	9.3 PY

ⁱ "PY" stands for "personnel year." A "+" indicates that more time could be required due to the complexity of the project and the need to collect information and data to support development of the amendments.